

United States Department of Justice U.S. Attorney, District of New Jersey 401 Market Street, Fourth Floor Camden, New Jersey 08101



Public Affairs: 973-645-2888

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Penns Grove Man Pleads Guilty to 10 Counts of Possession with intent to Distribute Cocaine

(More)

Greg Reinert, PAO: 856-757-5233 http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/nj/

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CAMDEN – A Penns Grove man pleaded guilty today to 10 counts of possession with intent to distribute cocaine as a result of an investigation into cocaine distribution in Salem County by the Salem County Prosecutor's Office and Carneys Point Police Department, U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie announced.

Shawn Robinson, 31, entered his plea before U.S. District Judge Jerome B. Simandle. Sentencing is scheduled for Aug. 12 at 11:30 a.m.

Robinson pleaded guilty to Counts Three through 12 of a Superseding Indictment, each count charging that Robinson knowingly possessed with the intent to distribute a quantity of cocaine on a specific date. At the time of sentencing, the government will move to dismiss Counts One and Two which charge the defendant with possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine.

At his plea hearing, Robinson admitted that on 10 occasions from March 5, 2003 through June 12, 2003, he sold quantities of cocaine to an undercover police officer at a car wash in Penns Grove, a truck stop located off interstate 295 in Salem County and a location in Pedricktown.

Each count of possession with intent to distribute cocaine carries a statutory maximum penalty of 20 years in prison and a \$1 million fine.

In determining an actual sentence, Judge Simandle will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges that take into account the severity and characteristics of the offense, the defendant's criminal history, if any, and other factors. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

Parole has been abolished in the federal system. Defendants who are given custodial terms must serve nearly all that time

Christie credited Investigators with Salem County Prosecutor's Office, under the direction Prosecutor John T. Lenahan, Carneys Point Police Officers, under the direction of Chief Cosmo Mangiocco, and Special Agents of the DEA, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Michael Pasterchick.

The Government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Jacqueline Carle of the U.S. Attorney's Office Criminal Division in Camden and John J. Hoffman of the U.S. Attorney's Office Criminal Division in Trenton.

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Defense Attorney: John Renner, Esq. Marlton